

Attorney Docket No. 06618-581001
Serial No. 09/765,772
Amendment dated February 17, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated October 17, 2003

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently amended) A method of recognizing handwriting, comprising:
obtaining a sample of handwriting;
segmenting said sample into separate handwritten words; and
attempting to recognize a whole handwritten word without attempting to recognize any individual letter of the whole handwritten word, by determining candidate features within the word, determining areas of higher entropy and lower entropy, and determining higher profile features which have higher weighted parts during recognition, and low profile features which have lower weighted parts during recognition, and locations of said high profile features and said low profile candidate features within the word.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A method as in claim 1, wherein said recognizing comprises determining features of the silhouette.

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4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1,
wherein said determining features comprises determining prime
features.

6. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 5,
further comprising enclosing said prime features to form hybrid
features.

7. (Original) A method as in claim 6, further comprising
sorting said features by first syllable blends.

8. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein
said attempting comprises categorizing a whole of said
handwritten word according to its overall silhouette.

9. (Previously presented) A method of recognizing
handwriting, comprising:

obtaining a sample of handwriting;
segmenting said sample into separate handwritten words; and

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attempting to recognize a whole handwritten word without attempting to recognize any individual letter of the whole handwritten word, by categorizing a whole of said handwritten word according to its overall silhouette; and

wherein said categorizing comprises categorizing positions of features in said handwritten word, and categorizing first syllable blends of said handwritten word.

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10. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said sample of handwriting includes family names.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 10, further comprising forming a list of a plurality of family names, and forming silhouette information about said plurality of family names, and comparing said separate handwritten words to said plurality of family names.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein said comparing comprises forming silhouette information, and comparing said silhouette information into said silhouette information about said plurality of family names.

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13. (Original) A method as in claim 12, wherein said silhouette information includes information about the presence of high and low parts in the written word and the position of those high and low parts.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 12 wherein said silhouette information includes first syllable blends in the word.

15. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:
analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising (1) forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole word, wherein said silhouette information includes prime profiles indicative of specified features, used to form concatenations of said prime profiles which concatenation describe combinations of specified features, (2) analyzing slope sequences of the handwriting, (3) analyzing N-S profiles of the handwriting, and (4) analyzing cavities within said handwriting, and (2) comparing said information with a database of information about other analysis information.

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16. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said database of information comprises a database of information obtained from a list of possible words.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) A method as in claim 15, wherein said silhouette information includes information indicative of high parts in the word and low parts in the word, and positions of said high parts and low parts in the word.

19. (Previously presented) A method comprising:
analyzing a sample of handwriting by analyzing a whole word of said sample at any one time, said analyzing comprising forming information indicative of a silhouette of said whole word, and comparing said information with a database of information about other silhouettes, wherein said silhouette information includes prime profiles indicative of specified features, and concatenated profiles indicative of combinations of specified features; and
wherein said silhouette information includes information about first syllable blends in the word.

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20. (Original) A method as in claim 18, wherein said silhouette information also includes information about first syllable blends in the word.

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21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each of a plurality of silhouette information is provided with a number.

23. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 18, wherein each feature is assigned a number.
